



DAN RUTHERFORD
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PRESS RELEASE

Illinois State Treasurer Dan Rutherford Unveils Kiosks That Will Allow Statewide, Portable Access to I-Cash Database

Five kiosks are being placed around the state to allow the latest in technology to travel county to county

WOODSTOCK – Feb. 20, 2013 – Illinois State Treasurer Dan Rutherford is unveiling a kiosk that will help Illinoisans search the I-Cash database and discover cash or other property. The kiosk unveiled today is located at the McHenry County Treasurer's Office, and will remain there until mid-May. The other four kiosks are or will be in Carbondale, Marion, Chicago and Springfield. The kiosks allow people to search their name, or the names of family members, and request that claim forms be mailed to them. Statistically, one in eight Illinoisans has property listed in the I-Cash database.

"My office is using the latest technology to make it easier to search I-Cash, especially for those who are unable to visit a local I-Cash event," said Rutherford. "I broke a record last year by returning \$129 million to the rightful owners. I hope these kiosks will make it possible for more people to search the list, file claims, and increase the dollar amount that's returned in 2013."

McHenry County Treasurer Bill LeFew thinks hosting a kiosk could lead many local residents to the discovery of forgotten money or other assets. "I am proud that Illinois State Treasurer Dan Rutherford selected my office for an I-Cash kiosk," said LeFew. "Presently, there is more than \$19 million tied to people with addresses in McHenry County and this machine will certainly help the thousands of people who come through our office each year to apply for their own money."

In addition to the kiosk at the McHenry County Treasurer's Office, the other four kiosks are in the following locations for the listed length of time:

- SIUC Student Center (four months)
- Illinois Star Centre Mall, Marion (three months)
- James R. Thompson Center (JRTC), Chicago (through March 31, 2013)
- Illinois State Capitol.

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STATE CAPITOL

Room 203
Springfield, IL 62706
Phone: (217) 782-2211 | Fax: (217) 785-2777

JAMES R. THOMPSON CENTER

100 West Randolph Street, Suite 15-600
Chicago, IL 60601
Phone: (312) 814-1700 | Fax: (312) 814-5930

ILLINOIS BUSINESS CENTER

400 West Monroe Street, Suite 401
Springfield, IL 62704
Phone: (217) 782-6540 | Fax: (217) 524-3822

MYERS BUILDING

One West Old State Capitol Plaza, Suite 400
Springfield, IL 62701
Phone: (217) 785-6998 | Fax: (217) 557-9365

“People are thrilled to find out they have money just waiting for them through **I-Cash**,” said Rutherford. “I encourage area residents to come visit me at local **I-Cash** events for assistance in locating their money or property – plus everyone should make an attempt to review our online database annually so they don’t miss out on money or valuable assets the state is holding for them.”

The recent rebranding and marketing campaign has dramatically increased the number of searches on the I-Cash (formerly Cash Dash) website and the number of claims filed. In the first month after the launch of I-Cash, the number of web visits increased by 140 percent (69,087 to 165,683), and the number of claims increased by 322 percent (7,506 to 31,703) as compared to the month before the switch to I-Cash.

The treasurer’s Unclaimed Property Division’s costs, including staff, computers and travel, are paid for through the Unclaimed Property Trust Fund, and not by tax dollars.

The **I-Cash** program helps reunite owners with their unclaimed property. The Unclaimed Property Division has more than \$1.7 billion in cash, plus contents from Illinois safe deposit boxes that have been inactive for at least five years. During Rutherford’s second year in office, the program returned \$129 million to people who owned those assets. That was an increase of 27 percent over 2011, which was Rutherford’s first year in office and marked the first time in history that the treasurer’s office returned more than \$100 million to the people who owned those assets. The total for 2011 was \$101 million, a 23 percent increase over the previous year. In the past, the **I-Cash** program returned about \$80 million annually to owners. It’s common for people to lose track of their assets when they move or when loved ones pass away. Businesses and banks are required to turn over unclaimed accounts to the treasurer’s office.

Some examples of unclaimed property currently held by the treasurer’s office include the following:

- Money from inactive savings and checking accounts
- Unpaid wages or commissions
- Stocks, bonds and mutual funds
- Money orders and bill overpayments
- Paid-up life insurance policies
- Safe deposit box contents.

To find out if you have unclaimed property through **I-Cash**, you can visit the treasurer’s website at www.treasurer.il.gov and follow the **I-Cash** link. The website is updated weekly to reflect new properties remitted to the office. Additionally, our **I-Cash** teams conduct regular outreach across the state, place twice-annual notices in newspapers and send direct mail to new single-owner claimants with property worth more than \$100. You can contact the Unclaimed Property Division by calling 217-785-6998 or emailing info@Icash.Illinois.gov, although searches cannot be completed by telephone.

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